

Bidder safety records  
(SB 1279 by Edwards/Berlanga)

DIGEST: SB 1279 would have allowed state agencies and political subdivisions to consider the safety records of bidders when evaluating a bid. Safety records of businesses or institutions represented by the bidder would also have had to be considered. The governing body would have had to adopt a policy including criteria for determining the safety record. Notice of this would be given in bid specifications.

GOVERNOR'S  
REASON  
FOR VETO:

The governor said HB 662 by Glossbrenner, which had already been signed, allows consideration of safety in evaluating a bid. In addition, the governor objected to "hastily added" provisions in SB 1279 that would have made it a criminal offense to separate purchases to circumvent competitive bidding requirements and allowing counties to use optical-data storage for records. The governor said that including these provisions in the bill violated the constitutional one-subject rule, which prohibits any bill, other than appropriations bills, from containing more than one subject (Art. 3, sec. 35(a) of the Texas Constitution).

AUTHOR'S  
VIEW:

Sen. Chet Edwards said he did not believe the amendments would have violated the one-subject rule. He said that the standards set by the amendments "would have made good public policy and I am disappointed that they did not pass."

NOTES:

The House Research Organization digest of SB 1279 appeared in Part One of the May 29, 1987 Daily Floor Report. The House Research Organization analysis of HB 662 appeared in the May 11, 1987 Daily Floor Report.